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The Financial Administration of the Colony of Virginia. By Percy Scott Flippin, Ph.D. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1915. Pp. 95.

The controversy between the American colonists and Great Britain which culminated in the Revolution had its origin in what was considered oppressive and unjust interference on the part of the mother country in the fiscal and economic affairs of the colonies rather than in theories of political rights. This study gives an account of the revenues of Colonial Virginia and of the methods of their collection. The author makes the point that in spite of much fraud in the collection of the revenues, they were always more than sufficient to provide for the needs of the colony. It was true that now and then the mother country seemed to be granting sums of money to the colony to aid in bridging over a crisis in its finances, but these grants were generally made from royal revenues which were being collected from the colony itself. The Virginia colonists not only paid all of the expenses of government involved in keeping them loyal to Great Britain, and a quit-rent on their lands to the British government besides, but they also furnished troops and money to conserve British interests in other colonies, even aiding in expeditions against Canada and the northern coast of South America. The present monograph is to constitute one chapter in a larger work which Dr. Flippin intends to publish on the Royal Government in Virginia.

Pioneer Laymen of North America. By the Rev. T. J. Campbell, S. J. New York: 1915.

Judging from the contents and the judiciously fair manner in which the biographical sketches composing this work are written, the new series of "pioneer" volumes by Father Campbell should prove equally as interesting as the first. For, while in the former writings of the learned author we found many fascinating and inspiring things relative to the saintly and brave missionaries who first brought the message of the Gospel to the redmen of this continent, the present work introduces to us some of the noblest among the laymen, mostly of French origin, who explored and colonized the banks of the St. Lawrence, Nova Scotia, etc. The voyages and hardships endured by such famous captains as Jacques Cartier, Champlain, and Maisonneuve should prove inspiring reading, particularly to youth, in these "mollycoddle" days, when the ideal held up before the rising generation is to receive rather than to give. From the Catholic viewpoint also, Father Campbell continues